



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

August 2011

WHAT YOU OWE – MEDIA SERVICES LICENSEES FOR FY 2011

The Commission's automated filing and payment system ("Fee Filer") is now available for filing and payment of FY 2011 regulatory fees. Regulatory fee payments must be made no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on September 14, 2011.

This *Fact Sheet* concerns licensees of media services such as: commercial AM & FM radio stations, FM translators and boosters, commercial television stations, satellite TV stations, low power television (LPTV) stations, TV translators and boosters and broadcast auxiliary stations. Media licensees and permit holders owe regulatory fees for each license or permit held as of **October 1, 2010**, even if the license or permit expired after October 1, 2010. In instances where a license or permit is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2010, the fee must be paid by the party that is the licensee or holder of the permit on the date that the fee payment is due.

Media Notification Letters and Use of 2010 Census Data

Beginning in FY 2011, the Commission will no longer mail out hardcopy media notifications to licensees. Instead, licensees can view their station's attributes for regulatory fee purposes at the FCC-authorized website at www.fccfees.com. Licensees can also view additional information regarding media and regulatory fees on the Commission's Regulatory Fees Home Page website at <http://transition.fcc.gov/fees/regfees.html>. Also, every ten years, the data from the United States Census is incorporated into the population counts of AM & FM radio stations on a county basis. These population counts, along with the station's class and type of service, are the basis for determining regulatory fees. Although the 2010 Census data has been completed, the data is still subject to revisions. Because FY 2011 regulatory fees are determined on the basis of the station's attributes as of October 1, 2010, it would be inappropriate to apply incomplete 2010 Census data in determining FY 2011 regulatory fees for radio stations. Therefore, the 2010 Census data will be applied to population counts of radio stations as of October 1, 2011 as part of our calculations of FY 2012 regulatory fees.

Commercial AM/FM Radio Stations

Who Must Pay: Licensees of commercial AM and FM radio stations, holders of construction permits for new AM and FM stations, and licensees who hold auxiliary broadcast service licenses for stations operated in conjunction with the main station (e.g., remote pickup stations, aural broadcast STLs, intercity relay stations and low power auxiliary stations), provided that such licenses or

permits were granted on or before October 1, 2010, even if the license or permit expired after October 1, 2010.

Fee Requirement: Fees are determined for AM and FM radio station licensees based upon class of station and population served. A station's class is based upon the station's most recent license that was granted on or before October 1, 2010. Fee amounts for AM and FM radio stations are indicated on a 42-block table, as shown on the following page. Fee amounts for individual stations may be obtained by accessing the FCC's internet website at (<http://transition.fcc.gov/fees/regfees.html>). If you have a commercial AM or FM radio station that is not listed, please contact the FCC Help Desk at (877) 480-3201, Option 4.

Holders of construction permits (CPs) for new AM and FM stations for which a license to cover the construction permit had not been granted as of October 1, 2010, owe \$490 (AM) and \$675 (FM), for each construction permit held, regardless of station class or population served. Licensees also owe \$10 for each broadcast auxiliary license held.

Payment Type Codes and Payment Amounts For FY 2010 Radio Station Regulatory Fees						
Population Served	AM Class A	AM Class B	AM Class C	AM Class D	FM Classes A, B1 & C3	FM Classes B, C, C0, C1 & C2
<=25,000	1117 \$700	1123 \$575	1129 \$525	1135 \$600	1141 \$675	1147 \$850
25,001 - 75,000	1118 \$1,400	1124 \$1,150	1130 \$800	1136 \$900	1142 \$1,350	1148 \$1,500
75,001 - 150,000	1119 \$2,100	1125 \$1,450	1131 \$1,050	1137 \$1,500	1143 \$1,850	1149 \$2,750
150,001 - 500,000	1120 \$3,150	1126 \$2,450	1132 \$1,575	1138 \$1,800	1144 \$2,875	1150 \$3,600
500,001 - 1,200,000	1121 \$4,550	1127 \$3,750	1133 \$2,625	1139 \$3,000	1145 \$4,550	1151 \$5,300
1,200,001 - 3,000,000	1122 \$7,000	1128 \$5,750	1134 \$3,950	1140 \$4,800	1146 \$7,425	1152 \$8,500
>3,000,000	1179 \$8,400	1180 \$6,900	1181 \$5,000	1182 \$6,000	1183 \$9,450	1184 \$11,050

Regulatory Fee Group or Category	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
Construction Permit for New AM Station	\$490	1115
Construction Permit for New FM Station	\$675	1116
Broadcast Auxiliary Station License	\$10	1169

VHF/UHF/Satellite TV Stations

Who Must Pay: Licensees of commercial VHF, UHF and satellite television stations, holders of construction permits for new stations, and licensees who hold auxiliary broadcast service licenses for stations operated in conjunction with the main station (e.g., remote pickup stations, intercity relay stations), provided that such licenses or permits were granted on or before October 1, 2010, even if the license or permit expired after October 1, 2010.

Fee Requirement: Fees for commercial television stations are based upon the size of the Nielsen Designated Market Area (DMA), as indicated in the chart below. Holders of construction permits (CPs) for new television stations for which a license had not been granted as of October 1, 2010, owe \$6,100 (VHF), \$3,275 (UHF), or \$670 (Satellite TV) for each permit held, regardless of market size. Finally, licensees also owe \$10 for each broadcast auxiliary license held.

Digital Television: In FY 2011, the Commission will assess regulatory fees on all full-service television stations licensed as of October 1, 2010. With the Commission's transition to digital full service television, it is possible that some facilities may still be operating under a Special Temporary Authority (STA) beginning on October 1, 2010 until the digital license is issued. These facilities operating under an STA will be considered to be fully operational licensed facilities and will be obligated to pay the same regulatory fee as a licensed full-service television station. The digital-only exemption (as a matter of Commission policy) is no longer applicable.¹

¹ See Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2010, Report and Order, 75 FR 41932 at ¶ 16 (July 19, 2010).

Commercial VHF Stations:	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
Markets 1-10	\$84,625	1153
Markets 11-25	\$68,175	1154
Markets 26-50	\$40,475	1155
Markets 51-100	\$22,750	1156
Remaining Markets	\$6,100	1157
Construction Permit for New VHF Station	\$6,100	1158
Broadcast Auxiliary Station	\$10	1169

Commercial UHF Stations:	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
Markets 1-10	\$34,650	1159
Markets 11-25	\$32,950	1160
Markets 26-50	\$20,950	1161
Markets 51-100	\$12,325	1162
Remaining Markets	\$3,275	1163
Construction Permit for New UHF Station	\$3,275	1164
Broadcast Auxiliary Station	\$10	1169
Satellite TV Stations:	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
All Markets	\$1,250	1165
Construction Permit for New Satellite Station	\$670	1166

LPTV, TV Translators & TV Boosters, FM Translators & FM Boosters

The Commission has established a category of “Class A TV” into which some Low Power TV (LPTV) stations were re-classified (See Establishment of a Class A TV Service, 65 FR 29985, MM Docket No. 00-10 (May 10, 2000)). Therefore, LPTV stations that were re-classified as Class A TV as of October 1, 2000, as well as existing LPTV stations operating as of October 1, 2010, should pay the LPTV fee of \$395 for FY 2011.

Because the digital transition for Low Power, Class A, and TV Translators/Boosters is still voluntary, there is currently no set date for the completion of this transition. Historically, the discussion of the digital transition conversion with respect to regulatory fees has centered on full-service television stations, and as a result, there is no “digital only” exemption for this class of media services. Because the digital transition in the Low Power, Class A, and TV Translators/Booster facilities will occur over a period time, it is possible that some facilities will convert from analog to digital more quickly than others. During this interim transition period, licensees of Low Power, Class A, and TV Translator/Booster facilities could be operating in analog mode, in digital mode, or in an analog and digital simulcast mode. For regulatory fee purposes, a fee will be assessed for each facility operating either in an analog or digital mode. In instances in which a licensee is operating in both an analog and digital mode as a simulcast, a single regulatory fee will be assessed for this analog facility that has a digital companion channel. As greater numbers of facilities convert to digital mode, the Commission will provide revised instructions on how regulatory fees will be assessed.

Who Must Pay: Holders of LPTV, TV translator and booster licenses, and FM translator and booster licenses whose license was granted on or before October 1, 2010, even if the license expired after October 1, 2010.

Fee Requirement: Fees are owed on a per-license basis as follows:

Type of License	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
Low Power Television Station, TV Translator/TV Booster	\$395	1167
FM Translator/FM Booster	\$395	1168

REPORTING OF BROADCAST AUXILIARIES

Broadcast auxiliary licenses, often known as remote pickup stations, aural broadcast STLs, intercity relay stations, and low power auxiliary stations, generally operate in conjunction with a main station. When paying regulatory fees for broadcast auxiliaries, the Facility Id of the main station that is linked to this auxiliary should be reported in the FCC Code 1 field in Fee Filer. Also, to reduce the volume of line items in a single transaction, Fee Filer will combine broadcast auxiliary fees when the number of line items exceeds 250 lines. Each resulting line item will show the Facility Id, the number of call signs associated with the Facility Id, and the combined fee amount. The number of call signs will appear in the Quantity field. The individual call signs, however, will no longer appear in Fee Filer. For those reporting line items of less than 250 lines, there will be no change in the manner of how the broadcast auxiliary fees are reported in Fee Filer.

CLAIMING AN EXEMPTION

The FCC will no longer accept fee exemption claims at the website www.fccfees.com. If you are fee-exempt, you are required to furnish to the FCC a copy of the documentation that proves your fee-exempt status. Acceptable documentation may include a copy of your IRS determination letter showing your IRS section 501(c) tax exemption status, or state or government certifications, or proof

of your station's noncommercial educational ((NCE) broadcast status at the FCC. Documentation must be received by the due date of September 14, 2011. To claim your fee exemption, you may:

E-mail your documentation to the FCC at ARINQUIRIES@fcc.gov, or

Fax your documentation to the FCC at (202) 418-7869, or

Mail your documentation to: FCC, Office of the Managing Director, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 1-A625, Washington, DC, 20554

MANDATORY USE OF FEE FILER

For FY 2011, the use of the online system (Fee Filer) for payment of regulatory fees has not changed from the process used in FY 2010: licensees and regulatees must first enter the Commission's Fee Filer system with a valid FRN and password, and follow the online prompts to generate a Form 159-E voucher to be submitted with the appropriate regulatory fee payment to the designated entity, U.S. Bank. Only Form 159-E vouchers generated from Fee Filer will be permitted to be submitted with regulatory fee payments to U.S. Bank. Instructions on the use and submission of Form 159-E payments are available on the Commission's website at the industry-appropriate section under the heading, *Who Owes Fees & What is My Fee FY2011* (<http://transition.fcc.gov/fees/regfees.html>). Please note that the use of the online Fee Filer system is mandatory, and filers are reminded that hardcopy/paper bills will no longer be mailed by the FCC. However, these bills are available for viewing in the Regulatory Fee link of Fee Filer. For additional information, please contact the Financial Operations Help Desk at 877-480-3201, Option 4.

There are many benefits to licensees and regulatees in using the Commission's Fee Filer system: 1) expeditious submission of payment; 2) no postage or courier costs (when paid electronically through Fee Filer); 3) fewer errors caused by illegible handwriting or payments submitted without an FRN number or the appropriate data attributes (*e.g.*, payers will avoid receiving delinquency notices because of payment submission errors); 4) improved recordkeeping and payment reconciliation; 5) reduced administrative burden on both licensees and regulatees on Commission staff in processing regulatory fee payments; 6) less expensive than a wire transfer; and 7) a reduced burden of preparing, mailing, and storing paper documents.

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